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2.4330 Example of Identifying Outliers

	Days	Cost
Claim # 1 -	1	$1,039
Claim # 2 -	1	972
Claim # 3 -	1	916
Claim # 4 -	1	446
Claim # 5 -	2	1,054
Claim # 6 -	2	495
Claim # 7 -	2	1,976
Claim # 8 -	2	743
Claim # 9 -	3	1,131
Claim #10 -	3	923
Claim #11 -	3	2,479
Claim #12 -	3	1,573
Claim #13 -	4	1,234
Claim #14 -	4	1,196
Claim #15 -	4	1,641
Claim #16 -	4	2,749
Claim #17 -	5	1,586
Claim #18 -	5	1,583
Claim #19 -	5	2,341
Claim #20 -	10	3,314

Computations

Total Cost..... $29,391
Mean Cost Per Stay (Total Cost/Total Claims)..... 1,470
Standard Deviation of the Cost Per Day..... 746

Total Number of Days..... 65 days
Mean Length of Stay (Total Days/Total Claims)..... 3.25
Standard Deviation of the LOS..... 2.05
Geometric Mean Length of Stay. 2.70

Cost Outlier Limit = Mean Cost Per Stay + 1.94 x Std. Dev.
= $1,470 + (1.94 x $746)
= $2,917

Day Outlier Limit = Geometric Mean LOS + 1.94 x Std. Dev.
= 2.70 + (1.94 x 2.05)
= 6.68 days
or 6 days

Analysis

Cost Outliers: All claims with costs up to and including $2,917 (the cost outlier limit) are non-cost outlier claims. Claims with costs over $2,917 are outlier claims. Among the above listed claims, only claim #20 is a cost outlier with a cost of $3,314.

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2.4330 continued

Day Outliers: Claims with lengths of stay of 6 days or less are non-day outlier claims, whereas claims with lengths of stay 7 days and higher are day outliers. Out of the claims listed in this example, only claim #20 with a LOS of 10 days is a day outlier.

2.4400 DRG Relative Weights

The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services developed DRG relative weights specific to the Kansas Medicaid/MediKan utilization of general hospital inpatient services. The weights for low-volume DRGs were determined using DRG weights from external data, with preference given to DRG weights derived from populations expected to be similar to the Kansas Medicaid population.

DRG relative weights are used in conjunction with other components of the DRG reimbursement system for computing payment. Determination of payment is discussed in section 2.5000.

2.4410 Data Base Adjustments for DRG Weight Computations

In computing DRG relative weights the cost of each outlier claim (identified in subsection 2.4300) was capped at the outlier threshold for the DRG.

2.4420 Determination of Kansas Medicaid-Specific DRG Relative Weights

For each DRG the following averages were computed from the adjusted data base:

- average cost per stay;
- average length of stay; and
- average cost per day.

The above "average" costs and LOS differ from the "mean" costs and LOS determined earlier in subsection 2.4300. The data base used for the mean costs and mean lengths of stay in subsection 2.4300 included outlier claims, whereas, the above average costs and LOS were computed from the adjusted data base consisting of non-outlier claims and outlier claims capped at the outlier threshold of that DRG (subsection 2.4410).

An "overall average cost" for each DRG was determined from the adjusted data base. Assigning this overall average cost a weight of 1.00, a relative weight was computed for each DRG based on its average cost per stay determined above, as compared to the overall average cost:

$$\text{DRG Relative Weight} = \frac{\text{Average Cost of the DRG}}{\text{Overall Average Cost}}$$

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2.4430 Example to Illustrate the Computation of Kansas Medicaid-Specific DRG Weights

Data

This example uses the same data as in subsection 2.4330, "Example of Identifying Outliers". Since claim #20 was determined to be both a cost and a day outlier, listed below are the claims, including the capped outlier claims used in computing the relative weight of this DRG:

	Days	Cost
Claim # 1 -	1	$1,039
Claim # 2 -	1	972
Claim # 3 -	1	916
Claim # 4 -	1	446
Claim # 5 -	2	1,054
Claim # 6 -	2	495
Claim # 7 -	2	1,976
Claim # 8 -	2	743
Claim # 9 -	3	1,131
Claim #10 -	3	923
Claim #11 -	3	2,479
Claim #12 -	3	1,573
Claim #13 -	4	1,234
Claim #14 -	4	1,196
Claim #15 -	4	1,641
Claim #16 -	4	2,749
Claim #17 -	5	1,586
Claim #18 -	5	1,583
Claim #19 -	5	2,341
Claim #20 -	6	2,917

Overall Average Cost: $2,106.68
(All claims in data base)

Computations

Total Cost.....$28,994.00
Average Cost Per Stay (Total Cost/Total Claims).. 1,449.70

$$\text{Relative Weight of the DRG} = \frac{\text{Average Cost of the DRG}}{\text{Overall Average Cost of all DRGs}}$$

$$= \frac{1,449.70}{2,106.68}$$

$$= .6881$$

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Analysis

The relative weight of .6881 in this example means that this DRG is less expensive to treat than the average DRG (with a weight of 1.0000). In other words, it indicates this DRG costs 31.19% less in relation to average DRGs.

2.4440 Modification of Relative Weights for Low-Volume DRGs

If very few paid claims are available for a DRG, any one claim can have a significant effect on that DRG's relative weight, day outlier limit, cost outlier limit, and daily rate. A statistical methodology was used to determine the minimum sample size required to set a stable weight for each DRG, given the observed sample standard deviation. For DRG's lacking sufficient volume in the Kansas Medicaid/Medikan claims data base, the DRG weight was derived using an external data base, with preference given to DRG weights derived from populations expected to be similar to the Kansas Medicaid/Medikan population. Sources used were an average of four states all payer data from 1996 from Kansas, Colorado, Iowa, and Wisconsin, and HCFA Medicare weights where other alternatives were not sufficient.

Outlier thresholds and average length of stay statistics for DRG's with externally derived weights were set using the appropriate statistics from the same external source. For DRG's whose weights were derived from Federal Medicare weights, in which case published cost outlier thresholds are based on a substantially different formula than is used by Kansas Medicaid, a least-squares regression equation was used to estimate the outlier threshold, based on the DRG weight.

2.4450 Modification of Relative Weights for Selected DRG Pairs

In cases of DRG "pairs" - one DRG with complications and co-morbidity (CC's) and the other DRG without CC's - if the DRG without CC's was weighted higher than the DRG with CC's, the relative weights of both DRG's were replaced with the weighted average of the two relative weights.

2.4500 Group Payment Rates

The Kansas Department of Social and Rehabilitation Services determined group payment rates for the three general hospital groups discussed in section 2.3000. The group payment rates are used in conjunction with DRG relative weights and other components developed for the Kansas DRG reimbursement system to determine payment.

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2.4510 Determination of Group Payment Rates

The same adjusted data base as used for DRG weights (subsection 2.4420) was used for developing group rates. Claims were identified by hospital and then sorted by the three groups based on the hospital assignments to groups. All claims were thus divided into three groups.

In order to adjust unaudited cost reports for the effect of Medicare audits, an audit adjustment factor was determined. This was done by comparing the cost of Kansas Medicaid/MediKan services from the preliminary 1997 cost reports with the Medicare audited cost reports for the same year which were available as of June 1999. This adjustment was averaged for all hospitals to determine the audit adjustment factor to be applied to each group rate.

Audit Settlement Comparison
Cost Data for the Fiscal Year ending 12/31/95

Routine Services	Days	Charges	Unaudited Ratio	Audited Ratio	Unaudited Cost	Audited Cost
Routine	151	27,740	219.36	218.45	33,123	32,986
Psychiatric	0	0	219.36	218.45	0	0
Detox	0	0	219.36	218.45	0	0
ICU	0	0	219.36	218.45	0	0
CCU	5	1,875	219.36	218.45	1,097	1,092
Nursery	44	6,515	188.64	187.72	8,300	8,260
Subtotal - Routine	200	36,130			42,520	42,338

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2.4510 continued

Ancillary Services					
Operating Room	2,992	0.832623	0.827636	2,491	2,476
Recovery Room	150	0.832623	0.827636	125	124
Delivery Room	5,291	1.624450	1.600224	8,595	8,467
Anesthesiology	1,547	0.338158	0.338382	523	523
Radiology-Diagnostic	2,100	0.820164	0.819799	1,722	1,722
Radiology-Therapeutic	0	0.820164	0.819799	0	0
Nuclear Medicine	0	0.820164	0.819799	0	0
Laboratory	7,495	0.635778	0.635706	4,765	4,765
Blood	80	0.513977	0.514555	41	41
Respiratory Therapy	4,495	0.436028	0.435172	1,960	1,956
Physical Therapy	28	0.791218	0.787545	22	22
Occupational Therapy	0	0.803771	0.801252	0	0
Speech Therapy	0	0.803771	0.801252	0	0
EKG	635	0.315497	0.315743	200	200
EEG	0	0.315497	0.315743	0	0
Medical Supply	3,450	0.348991	0.348657	1,204	1,203
Drugs	7,775	0.600985	0.601254	4,672	4,675
Ultrasound	270	0.095519	0.325114	26	88
Emergency	755	2.229117	2.219673	1,683	1,676
Other Charges	0			0	0
Subtotal - Ancillary	37,063			28,053	27,960
Total	73,193			70,574	70,298

Percent Change due to Audited Cost Report 0.39

For each group, total cost adjusted for the effect of audits, total DRG weight (using the weights computed for the DRGs assigned to the various claims), and total number of claims were determined. Using these totals, the average cost and average DRG weight were computed for each group. Next, the average cost divided by the average DRG weight gave the payment rate for each hospital group.

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2.4520 Example of Group Rate Computation

The following is a highly simplified example which, while illustrating the methodology used, does not represent actual numbers.

Data

Group 1		Group 2		Group 3	
DRG Cost	DRG Weight	Cost	Weight	Cost	Weight
$1,500	.5000	$1,200	.5000	$1,000	.5000
2,000	.8000	2,000	1.0000	2,000	1.0000
2,500	1.0000	800	.4000	600	.6000
3,000	1.2000	2,500	1.3000		
4,000	1.5000	3,000	1.4000		
1,000	.4000	5,000	1.8000		
6,000	2.2000	1,600	.7400		
4,500	1.4000				
2,500	1.0000				
2,000	.9000				

Computations	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Total Cost of Claims	$ 29,000	$16,100	$ 3,600
Total DRG Weight	10.9000	7.1400	2.1000
Total Number of Claims	10	7	3
Average Cost	$ 2,900	$ 2,300	$ 1,200
Average DRG Weight	1.0900	1.0200	.7000
Group Payment Rate	$ 2,660.55	$ 2,254.90	$ 1,714.29

The group payment rate was computed by dividing the average cost by the average DRG weight.

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2.4530 Medical Education Addition to Rates

For hospitals with medical education costs, the group payment rates were modified as follows:

Hospital Specific Rate = Group Payment Rate + Hospital Specific Medical Education Rate

The hospital specific medical education rate has two components, direct medical education (DME) rate and indirect medical education (IME) rate. These were computed as follows:

$$\text{Direct Medical Education Percent} = \frac{\text{Total Direct Medical Education Cost}}{\text{Total Cost for the Hospital}}$$

$$\text{Indirect Medical Education Percent} = 1.54 \times ((1 + \text{ratio})^{0.405} - 1)$$

$$\text{Hosp. Specific Medical Education Rate} = \text{Group rate} \times (1 + \text{DME Percent} + \text{IME Percent})$$

2.4600 DRG Daily Rates

The Department computed DRG daily rates for all DRG classifications. These rates will be used for computing reimbursement in cases involving day outliers, transfers, and eligibility changes (see subsections 2.5300, 2.5400, and 2.5600).

2.4700 Hospital Specific Medicaid Cost to Charge Ratios

The Department established a cost to charge ratio of Medicaid utilization of inpatient services for each hospital. This ratio shows a comparison of Medicaid reimbursable costs of general hospital inpatient services with the corresponding covered charges.

Cost to charge ratios (CCR's) were calculated using the cost reports submitted by hospitals and charge data from the claims database used to compute the DRG weights and hospital group rates.

These ratios will be used in the DRG reimbursement system to estimate costs of claims for determining whether the claims meet the cost outlier criteria (subsection 2.5110), and also to compute payment for cost outliers (subsection 2.5310). Please note these ratios should not be confused with the cost to charge ratios of various ancillary service departments computed in hospital cost reports.

2.5000 Determination of Payment Under the DRG Reimbursement System

This section provides policies and methodologies for the determination of payment in various situations under the DRG reimbursement system.

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2.5100 Identification of Outlier Claims

Each claim that is eligible for an outlier payment, will be tested to determine whether it meets the cost and/or day outlier criteria. If the claim does not qualify as either a cost or a day outlier, the standard DRG payment will be made to the hospital, unless the claim falls under one of the categories discussed in subsections 2.5400 through 2.5720 and another method is used for computing payment.

2.5110 Testing for Cost Outlier

The covered charges on the claim will be multiplied by the pre-established Medicaid cost to charge ratio for the hospital (subsection 2.4700) to estimate the cost of the claim. If the estimated cost is higher than the cost outlier limit established for the DRG which has been assigned to the claim, a cost outlier payment will be made to the hospital in addition to the standard DRG amount.

2.5120 Testing for Day Outlier

If the covered length of stay on the claim is higher than the day outlier limit established for the DRG that has been assigned to the claim, a day outlier payment will be made to the hospital in addition to the standard DRG amount.

2.5130 Example of Testing for Outlier

Data

Hospital Data:	Group Payment Rate	$ 2,836
	Cost to Charge Ratio	.78
Claim Data:	Covered Charges	$39,760
	Covered Length of Stay	50 days
DRG Data:	DRG Weight	4.2294
	Cost Outlier Limit	$32,899
	Day Outlier Limit	67 days
	Daily Rate	$ 503
	Adjustment Percentage	.75

Computation/Comparison

Testing for Cost Outlier:

Estimated Cost of Claim	=	Covered Charges	x Ratio
	=	$39,760	x .78
	=	$31,013	

Compare With Cost Outlier Limit $32,899

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Section 2.5130 continued

Testing for Day Outlier:

Covered Length of Stay	50 days
Compare With Day Outlier Limit	67 days

Analysis

Cost Outlier: The estimated cost of the claim ($31,013) is less than the cost outlier limit ($32,899). Therefore, the claim is not a cost outlier.

Day Outlier: The covered length of stay on the claim (50 days) is less than the day outlier limit (67 days). Therefore, the claim is not a day outlier.

2.5200 Standard DRG Payment

Standard DRG amount will constitute the base payment for an inpatient discharge except in those situations where a partial payment may be made. Any outlier payment for the qualifying claims will be in addition to the standard DRG payment.

Standard DRG amount for a claim can be obtained by multiplying the relative weight of the DRG assigned to the claim, by the group payment rate assigned to the hospital.

Example of Standard DRG Payment Calculation:

Referring to the data in subsection 2.5130:
Standard DRG Payment = DRG Weight x Hospital Group Payment Rate

= 4.2294 x $ 2,836
= $11,995

2.5300 Payment for Outlier Claims

If a covered general hospital inpatient stay is determined to be a cost or day outlier, the total reimbursement will consist of the standard DRG payment plus an additional amount for the outlier portion of the claim.

2.5310 Cost Outlier Payment

The payment for the cost outlier portion of a claim will be obtained by multiplying the difference between the estimated cost of the claim and the applicable cost outlier limit, by the DRG adjustment percentage. Cost outlier payment will be made for up to 360 inpatient days of stay, beyond which only day outlier payment will be made.

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2.5310 continued

Example of Computing Cost Outlier Payment:

Data

Hospital Data	:	Same as subsection 2.5130
Claim Data	:	Covered Charges....$45,980
DRG Data	:	Same as subsection 2.5130
Standard DRG Payment	:	$11,995 (from subsection 2.5200)
Assumption	:	Not a day outlier

Computations

Estimated Cost = Covered Charges x Hospital Ratio
= $45,980 x .78
= $35,864

Payment for Cost Outlier Portion = (Estimated Cost - Cost Outlier Limit) x DRG Adj. Percentage
= ($35,864 - $32,899) x .75
= $ 2,224

Total Payment = Std. DRG Pymt. + Outlier Pymt.
= $11,995 + $2,224
= $14,219

2.5320 Day Outlier Payment

The payment for the day outlier portion will be obtained by multiplying the difference between the covered length of stay and the applicable day outlier limit, by the DRG daily rate and the DRG adjustment percentage.

Example of Day Outlier Payment Computation:

Data

Hospital Data	:	Same as subsection 2.5130
Claim Data	:	Covered Length of Stay.....73 days
DRG Data	:	Same as subsection 2.5130
Standard DRG Payment	:	$11,995 (from subsection 2.5200)
Assumption	:	Not a cost outlier

Computations

Payment for Day Outlier Portion = (Covered Length of Stay - Day Outlier Limit) x DRG Daily Rate x DRG Adjustment Percentage
= (73 - 67) x $503 x .75
= $2,264

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Section 2.5320 continued

Total Claim Payment	= Standard DRG Payment	+ Outlier Payment	
	= $11,995	+ $2,264	
	= $14,259		

2.5330 Simultaneous Cost and Day Outlier Payment

If a covered general hospital inpatient stay is determined to be both a cost outlier and a day outlier, the reimbursement will be the greater of the amounts computed for cost outlier and day outlier.

Example of Payment for Simultaneous Cost and Day Outlier:

Data

Total Claim Payment for Cost Outlier...$14,219 (subsection 2.5310)
Total Claim Payment for Day Outlier....$14,259 (subsection 2.5320)

Analysis

The higher of the two amounts, $14,259, will be the reimbursement amount for the claim which meets both cost outlier and day outlier criteria.

2.5400 Payment for Transfers

When a recipient is transferred during a covered general hospital inpatient stay from one hospital to another hospital, the reimbursement to all hospitals involved in the transfer(s) will be computed as follows.

2.5410 Transferring Hospital(s)

The reimbursement to each transferring general hospital shall be the DRG daily rate for each covered day of stay. Total payment to each transferring hospital shall be no greater than the standard DRG amount, except where the transferring hospital is eligible for outlier payments.

2.5420 Discharging Hospital

The discharging general hospital shall be reimbursed the standard DRG amount. If the claim qualifies as an outlier, the discharging hospital shall be eligible for an outlier payment based solely on the length of stay at the discharging hospital.

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2.5430 Transfer To or From a State Operated Hospital

If the transferring hospital or the discharging hospital is a state operated hospital, reimbursement to the state operated hospital will be computed according to the methodology for state operated hospitals.

2.5440 Example of Payment Determination in Transfers

The following situation will provide an illustration of the various payment methods used when a patient is transferred from one hospital to another. Although the situation may not be realistic with regard to the medical treatment provided, it shows all basic payment methods for patient transfers through a single example.

A patient is admitted to a state operated hospital (Hospital A), and after a stay of two days with $1,400 in billed charges, the patient is transferred to a general hospital (Hospital B). Hospital B has the patient for three days and the case is assigned DRG #186. Hospital B is in Group 2. The patient is then transferred to another general hospital (Hospital C) due to complications. The patient is discharged after six days from Hospital C, and is assigned DRG #186. Hospital C is in Group 1.

Payment to Hospital A: Since Hospital A is a state operated hospital, the payment will be determined using the methodology specified in the section on state operated hospitals.

Payment to Hospital B: Hospital B is a transferring general hospital, and will therefore be paid a DRG daily rate for each day of stay, with total payment limited by the standard DRG amount.

Data Used for this example:

DRG Daily Rate	$ 597
DRG Weight	.6515
Group 2 Rate	$2307

The transfer payment will be computed by multiplying the number of days times the DRG daily rate; i.e., 3 times $597, or $1,791. This amount will be compared against the standard DRG amount, and the lesser of the two shall be paid. The standard DRG amount is .6515 times $2,307, or $1,503. Therefore, Hospital B would be paid $1,503.

Payment to Hospital C: Hospital C is a discharging general hospital, and would therefore be paid the standard DRG amount plus any outlier payment, if applicable.

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Section 2.5440 continued

Data Used for this example:

DRG Weight	.6515
Group 1 Rate	$2836

The standard DRG amount is $1,847.65. If this claim had been a day and/or a cost outlier, an additional payment would be made.

2.5500 Payment for Re-admission

2.5510 Readmission to the Same Hospital

If a recipient is readmitted to the same hospital within 30 days of discharge, and if the readmission is determined to have resulted from an inappropriate discharge; the reimbursement will be made only for the first admission.

2.5520 Readmission to a Different Hospital

If a recipient is readmitted to a different hospital within 30 days of discharge, and if the readmission is determined to have resulted from an inappropriate discharge; payment will be made only to the second hospital to which the patient was readmitted. Payment made to the first hospital for the original (first) admission will be recouped.

2.5530 Determination of Payment for Re-admission

Whether the reimbursement should be made for the first or the second admission (i.e., the original admission or the subsequent readmission), will be ruled by the discussion in the preceding subsections 2.5510 and 2.5520. The amount of reimbursement in each situation will be determined as provided in subsections 2.5100 through 2.5400.

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2.5600 Recipient Eligibility Changes

If a recipient is determined ineligible for the Medicaid/MediKan Program for a portion of the inpatient stay, reimbursement shall be made to the general hospital only for those days of stay which were also days of eligibility. No reimbursement shall be made for services provided on days when a recipient was ineligible for the Medicaid/MediKan Program.

The payment amount will consist of the DRG daily rate for each eligible day during the inpatient stay in the hospital. No more than the standard DRG payment plus any outlier payment (if applicable), will be allowed as the total payment. Only the Medicaid covered inpatient days and charges will be used for outlier payment computation.

2.5700 Payment for Interim Billings

Hospitals will be allowed to submit interim bills for inpatient stays longer than 180 days. Each interim bill must cover 180 or more continuous days of service except the discharge billing and the federal fiscal year end cut-off billing, each of which may include less than 180 days as the situation may be.

2.5710 Payment for First Interim Billing

The first interim bill will be treated like any other claim, in the sense that it will be tested to determine if it meets the cost and/or day outlier criteria. If the stay covered in the first interim bill does not qualify as an outlier, only the standard DRG amount would be paid. If the claim exceeds the cost and/or day outlier limit(s), an appropriate outlier payment will be made in addition to the base amount.

2.5720 Payment for Second and Subsequent Interim Billings

At the time of each interim bill after the first, an outlier payment amount will be determined using the cumulative cost and days since the date of admission through the last service date included in the current interim billing. One of the following two situations may occur:

Up to 360 Days: Up until 360 days of continuous stay, the Department will authorize the fiscal agent to pay the higher of cost and day outlier amounts for each interim bill.

Longer than 360 Days: When the stay becomes longer than 360 days, only day outlier payments will be made.

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2.6000 Settlements and Recoupments

There shall be no year end settlements under the DRG reimbursement system. However, some settlements and recoupments may occur because of Surveillance/Utilization Review or other reviews which determine that payments were in error.

3.0000 General Hospital Reimbursement for Inpatient Services Excluded from the DRG Reimbursement System

Reimbursement for heart, liver and bone marrow transplant services shall be excluded from the DRG payment system. Reimbursement for these transplants shall be based upon the lesser of reasonable costs or customary charges, contingent upon transplant surgery. Due to the unusual nature of these services, negotiated rates which pay no more than the DRG daily rate may be paid. For services provided prior to the transplant surgery, or if transplant surgery is not performed, reimbursement shall be made according to the DRG payment system.

4.0000 Reimbursement for Inpatient Services in State Operated Hospitals

Reimbursement for inpatient services in state operated hospitals shall be based upon the lesser of reasonable costs or customary charges for covered services rendered to eligible individuals.

4.1000 Malpractice Costs in a State Operated Hospital

Medicaid malpractice cost shall be determined by dividing the risk portion of malpractice cost by total hospital charges and multiplying the result by allowable Medicaid charges. This shall be used for all cost report periods ending on and after 7/1/91.

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